



Application No. 10/577,342

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Koichi MORIKAWA et al.

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/577,342

(National Stage of PCT/JP2004/019144)

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : December 15, 2004

Confirmation No. : 4882

For : MATERIAL OF CASE FOR STORAGE CELL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Randolph Building

401 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant hereby brings the following information to the attention of the Examiner, which includes information cited and discussed in the specification, the International Search Report, and the International Preliminary Report on Patentability issued in connection with counterpart International Application No. PCT/JP2004/019144. Copies of the International Search Report (in English and Japanese), were enclosed with the papers when entering the National Stage on April 28, 2006. Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability (Forms PCT/IB/326, PCT/IB/373, and

PCT/ISA/237).

The Examiner is invited to review these materials to inspect the relevance indicated during international examination with respect to the documents cited therein. The Examiner is accordingly requested to consider each of these documents, and to make them of record in this application by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the attached Form-1449. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. If the Examiner needs additional copies of any of the documents, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. For the Examiner's convenience, the documents are listed below.

- (1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-22701, together with an English language Abstract thereof.
- (2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-118546, together with an English language Abstract thereof, and family member U.S. Patent No. 5,478,670 to HAYASAKA et al., which issued on December 26, 1995.
- (3) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-144342, together with an English language Abstract thereof.
- (4) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-253400, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

- (5) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-160839, together with an English language Abstract thereof, and family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0016636 to KOBAYASHI et al., which published on January 27, 2005.
- (6) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. SHO 62-62449, together with an English language Abstract thereof. Applicants note that this document is cited on page 2 of the specification of the above-captioned application.
- (7) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. SHO 62-94908, together with an English language Abstract thereof. Applicants note that this document is cited on page 2 of the specification of the above-captioned application.
- (8) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. SHO 63-81914, together with an English language Abstract thereof. Applicants note that this document is cited on page 2 of the specification of the above-captioned application.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patent and patent application publication are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents,

including the noted English language Abstracts, are attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of the application. Accordingly, no fees are required.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Koichi MORIKAWA et al.



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***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.